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(54) **A system and method for communicating with multiple transponders**

(57) The object of the invention is a system and method for identifying and communicating with a plurality of transponders which are at the same time in the same interrogation field. The system is based on an interrogator which sends interrogation bursts in a period-

ical manner, and transponders which send the response back with a random delay related to the end-of-burst event. The system is primarily suitable for passive (no additional power supply) transponders, but can also be used for active transponders.

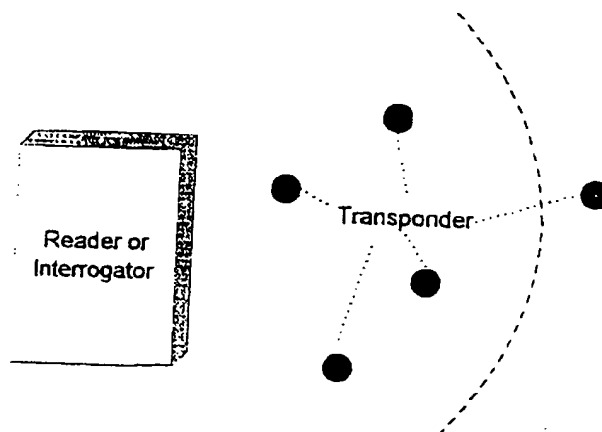


Figure 1.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G06K
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 30 May 2002	Examiner Schauler, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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